Gap between production and export of Textiles

†2850. SHRI KAPIL SIBAL:
SHRI RAJIV RANJAN SINGH 'LALAN':

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that 15 per cent of the total production of the country is produced under the textile industry while its share in the overall export is 30 per cent;

(b) if not, the fact in this regard;

(c) whether there is need to increase production to reduce the gap between production and export; and

(d) if so, Government's reaction thereon?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) The textile sector contributes about 14% to the industrial production and about 35% of exports of the country;

(c) and (d) The Government has been taking several steps from time to time to increase production and productivity of textile sector. Some of the important initiatives are as under:—

(1) The Technology Upgradation Fund Scheme (TUF) has been made operational from 1.4.1999 to facilitate the modernisation and Upgradation of this sector.

(2) Government has recently launched Technology Mission for Cotton. One of the important ingredients of the Mission is to improve cotton processing facilities by upgrading/ modernising the existing ginning and pressing factories.

(3) Allowing foreign equity participation upto 100%, through automatic route, in the textile sector with certain exceptions.

(4) The facility to import capital goods under Export Promotion

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†.Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

Capital Goods (EPCG) Scheme at 5% concessional rate of duty.

(5) The woven segment of ready-made garments has been de-reserved from SSI Sector.

(6) To prepare and sensitise our textile and garment industry to conform to the ecological requirements of importing countries by providing facilities by way of eco-testing laboratories.

(7) National Institute for Fashion Technology (NIFT), its six branches and Apparel Training and Design Centres (ATDCs) are running various courses/programmes to meet skilled manpower requirements of textile industry in the field of design, merchandising and marketing.

(8) The New Exporters' Entitlement (Quota) Policies announced for the period 2000-2004 to provide stability and continuity and encourage competitiveness in textile exports.

(9) The National Textile Policy 2000 has recently been announced to provide the policy direction for orderly and sustained development and growth of the textile industry in a harmonious way and to give a thrust to textile exports.

Besides the above, a comprehensive package for the textile industry has been announced in the Union Budget (2001-02) proposals, which include:—

— A provision for introduction of a new "Apparel Park Scheme."

— Excise duty on textile items has been rationalised to a single rate of 16% CENVAT. However, cotton yarn including sewing thread would continue at the effective rate of 8% duty.

— Reduction in customs duty from 15% to 5% on 159 specified textile and garment machineries.

— 10% surcharge on imports has been withdrawn.

— Weaving, processing and garment machinery, which are

covered under TUFS, have been extended the facility of accelerated depreciation at the rate of 50%.

Reviving the nationalised jute mills of NJMC

2851. SHRI P. K. MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have taken any effective steps for reviving the six nationalised jute mills under the NJMC;

(b) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government have also signed any tripartite agreement on 27th July, 1994; and

(d) if so, the salient features of the said agreement and the progress made so far in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR): (a) and (b) In accordance with the direction of BIFR in its meeting held on 27.7.2000 Indian Jute Industries Research Association, (IJIRA) has been asked to conduct a unit-wise Techno-Economic Viability Study of all the mills of NJMC. In its last meeting held on 23.2.2001 the Board has given directions to IJIRA to submit the reports to the Operating Agency, namely IIBI quickly to enable them to prepare a revised rehabilitation plan. In the meantime, Govt. have been providing budgetary support to NJMC to meet the shortfall in wages and salaries. Details of budgetary support provided from 1994-95 to 2000-01 is enclosed. (*See* below)

(c) Government have not signed any Tripartite agreement on 27.7.1994 but a Resolution has been signed on the date between the Central Trade Union leaders and CMD, NJMC.

(d) Does not aries.